PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: Viktor MAGDOLEN et al.

Appln. No.: PCT/EP00/08234

Filed: Concurrently herewith Attorney Dkt. No.: 100564-00104

For: SELECTIVE INHIBITORS OF THE UROKINASE PLASMINOGEN ACTIVATOR

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231 February 25, 2002

Sir:

Prior to calculation of the filing fees and initial examination of the application, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Before Line 1, page 1 insert

--CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

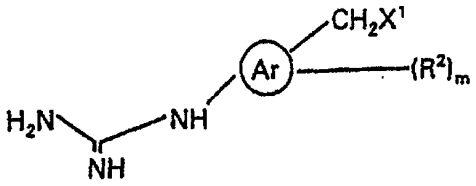
This application is a National Stage entry of International Application No. PCT/EP00/08234, filed August 23, 2000, the entire specification claims and drawings of which are incorporated herewith by reference. --

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-14 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please add claims 15-26 as follows:

--15. The use of compounds of the formula (I)



(I)

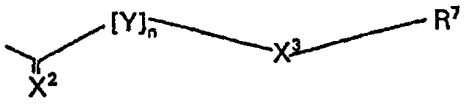
in which

Ar s an aromatic or heteroaromatic ring system having a single ring;

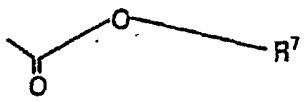
X^1 is NR^3R^4, OR^3, SR^3, $COOR^3$ $CONR^3R^4$ or COR^5,

where

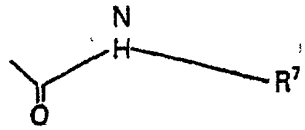
R^3 is H or a group of the formula II, IIIa, IIIb or IIIc:



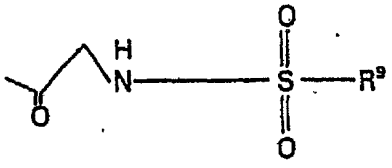
(II)



(IIIa)



(IIIb)



(IIIc)

where

X^2 is NH, NR^4, O or S,

X^3 is NH, NR^4, O, S, CO, COO, CONH OR $CONR^4$,

Y is $C(R^8)_2$,

R^4 is H or an alkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl radical,

R^7 is H or an alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl or/and heteroaryl radical or -SO_2-R^9,

R^8 is in each case independently H, halogen or an alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl or/and heteroaryl radical,

R^9 is H or an alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl or/and heteroaryl radical and

n is an integer from 0 to 2,

R^4 is as defined above,

R^5 is H, an alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, carboxyalkyl, carboxyalkenyl, carboxyalkynyl, carboxyaryl or carboxyheteroaryl radical;

R^2 is halogen, $C(R^6)_3$, $C_2(R^6)_5$, $OC(R^6)_3$ or $OC^2(R^6)_5$,

where

R^6 is in each case independently H or halogen, in particular F; and

m is an integer from 0 to 4;

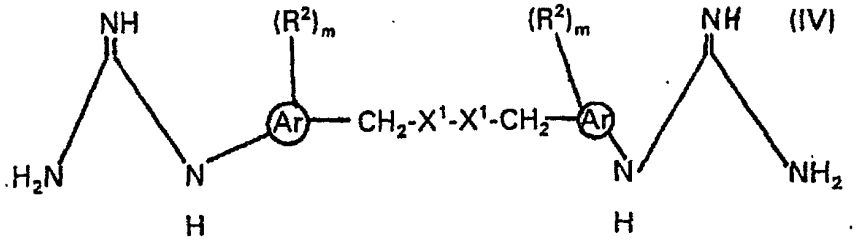
or salts of said compound for preparing an agent for inhibition of the urokinase plasminogen activator.

16. The use as claimed in claim 15, in which Ar is a benzene ring.

17. The use as claimed in claim 16, in which the substituents -CH_2X^1 and -$NHC(NH)NH_2$ are arranged in para position.

18. The use as claimed in claim 15, in which R^7 and R^9 are selected from the group comprising aryl, in particular phenyl radicals and tertiary alkyl radicals and cycloalkyl radicals, in particular bicycloalkyl radicals such as adamantyl.

19. The use of compounds of the formula (IV)



in which

X^1 is in each case independently NR^3R^4, OR^3, SR^3, $COOR^3$, $CONR^3R^4$ or COR^5, with the proviso that the two arylguanidine groups are linked to one another via the substituents CH_2X^1,

where

R^3 is in each case independently H or any organic radical,

R^4 is in each case independently H or an alkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl radical;

Ar is in each case independently an aromatic or heteroaromatic ring system,

R^2 is in each case independently halogen, $C(R^6)_3{}^3$, $C_2(R^6)_5$, $OC(R^6)_3$ or $OC_2(R^6)_5$,

where

R^6 is in each case independently H or halogen, in particular F; and

m is an integer from 0 to 4;

or salts of said compounds for preparing an agent for inhibition of the urokinase plasminogen activator.

20. The use as claimed in claim 15 for controlling disorders which are associated with a pathological overexpression of urokinase or/and urokinase receptor.

21. The use as claimed in claim 20 for controlling tumors.

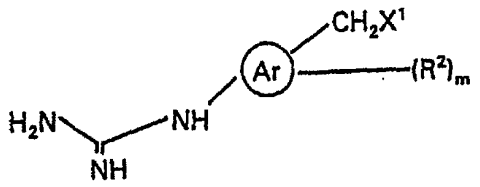
22. The use as claimed in claim 20 for controlling the formation of metastases.

23. The use as claimed in claim 15 for preparing orally, topically, rectally or parenterally administrable medicaments.

24. The use as claimed in claim 15 in the form of tablets, coated tablets, capsules, pellets, suppositories, solutions or transdermal systems such as plasters.

25. A method for inhibiting urokinase in living creatures, in particular in humans, by administering an effective quantity of at least one compound as claimed in claim 15.

26. A compound of the formula (I)



(I)

in which Ar, X^1, R^2 and m are as defined in claim 15.

REMARKS

Claims 15-26 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1-14 have been deleted, and claims 15-26 are added thereof to place this application into better condition for examination. No new matter is added.

Respectfully submitted,

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Selective inhibitors of the urokinase plasminogen activator

Description

The present invention relates to novel selective inhibitors of the urokinase plasminogen activator (uPA, EC 3.4.21.31) of the arylguanidine type.

The urokinase-type plasminogen activator (uPA) plays a key part in tumor invasion and formation of metastases (Schmitt et al., J. Obst. Gyn. 21 (1995), 151-165). uPA is overexpressed in various types of tumor cells (Kwaan, Cancer Metastasis Rev. 11 (1992), 291-311) and binds to the tumor-associated uPA receptor (uPA-R) in which activation of plasminogen to plasmin takes place. Plasmin is capable of degrading various components of the extracellular matrix (ECM) such as fibronectin, laminin and collagen type IV. It also activates some other ECM-degrading enzymes, in particular matrix metalloproteinases. High amounts of tumor-associated uPA correlate with a higher risk of metastasizing in cancer patients (Stephens et al., Breast Cancer Res. & Treat. 52 (1998), 99-111). Therefore, inhibition of the proteolytic activity of uPA is a good starting point for an anti-metastatic therapy.

A common feature of many known synthetic uPA inhibitors is a basic residue containing amidino or guanidino groups, which can bind to Asp^{189} in the uPA S1 specificity pocket and which acts as an arginine mimetic there (Spraggon et al., Structure 3 (1995), 681-691). However, most of the known inhibitors are not selective for uPA but also inhibit other serine proteases such as trypsin, thrombin, plasmin or tissue plasminogen activator (tPA).

p-Aminobenzamidine is a moderately selective uPA inhibitor having an inhibition constant of 82 μM. Billstroem et al. (Int. J. Cancer 61 (1995), 542-547)

could show a distinct decrease in the growth rate of DU145 tumors (a prostate adenocarcinoma cell line) in SCID mice when administering orally a daily dose of 125 to 250 mg of p-aminobenzamidine/kg/day. The side effects were negligible.

Some monosubstituted phenylguanidines have proved effective and selective uPA inhibitors in vitro. These small molecules show inhibition constants in the micromolar range but they bind only in the S1 pocket of uPA (Yang et al., J. Med. Chem. 33 (1990), 2956-2961). Biological studies using these compounds were not carried out.

The diuretic amiloride is a selective uPA inhibitor (Ki, uPA = 7 μM) which prevents the formation of lung metastases after i.v. inoculation of rat breast adenocarcinoma cells (Kellen et al., Anticancer Res. 8 (1988), 1373-1376). Some 3-amidinophenylalanine derivatives have likewise proved effective inhibitors of serine proteases but these compounds generally have only low selectivity for uPA (Stürzebecher et al., J. Med. Chem. 40 (1997), 3091-3099; Stürzebecher et al., J. Enzyme Inhib. 9 (1995), 87-99).

Currently the most effective and most selective uPA inhibitors are benzo[b]thiophene-2-carboxamidine derivatives (B428 and B623: $K_{i,\ uPA}$ = 0.32 and 0.07 μM, respectively; US patent 5,340,833). Rabbani et al. (Int. J. Cancer 63 (1995), 840-845) and also Xing et al. (Cancer Res. 57 (1997), 3585-3593) could show, after administration of 4-iodobenzo[b]thiophene-2-carboxamidine (B428), a decrease of tumor growth and metastases formation in a syngeneic model of rat prostate cancer and mouse breast cancer, respectively. The latter studies showed a further decrease in primary tumor growth when B428 was administered together with the antiestrogen tamoxifen.

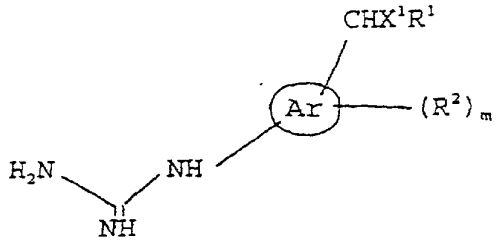
It was the object of the present invention to provide novel selective uPA inhibitors. This object is achieved by novel arylguanidine and in particular phenylguanidine derivatives. These compounds contain a further substituent on the aromatic ring system, preferably in para position to the guanidine group, which substituent contains an unsubstituted or substituted methylene group followed by hydrogen donor/acceptor functionalities. Owing to this substitution pattern, the compounds are particularly effective and selective for uPA. This efficacy could be attributed possibly to the fact that they

(1) interact as arginine mimetics with the Asp^{189} amino acid residue in the S1 pocket of uPA and

(2) can interact with the S2 and/or S3 pockets of uPA.

N-Substituted p-aminophenylguanidines (without methylene spacer) and also p-guanidinophenylalanine derivatives (2 methylene groups as spacer) were ineffective uPA inhibitors. The compounds of the invention preferably contain urethane or urea groups for interaction with S2 and/or large hydrophobic radicals such as aryl groups or cycloalkyl groups (e.g. adamantane) for interaction with S3.

The present invention thus relates to the use of compounds of the formula I



in which

Ar is an aromatic or heteroaromatic ring system,

X^1 is NR^3R^4, OR^3, SR^3, $COOR^3$, $CONR^3R^4$ or COR^5,

R^1 is H, an unsubstituted or substituted alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl or/and heteroaryl radical, or $COOR^3$, $CONR^3R^4$ or COR^5,

R^2 is halogen, $C(R^6)_3$, $C_2(R^6)_5$, $CO(R^6)_3$ or $OC_2(R^6)_5$,

R^3 is H or any organic radical,

R^4 is H or an unsubstituted or substituted alkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl radical,

R^5 is H, an alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, carboxyalkyl, carboxyalkenyl, carboxyalkynyl, carboxyaryl or carboxyheteroaryl radical, where the alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl and heteroaryl radicals may be unsubstituted or substituted,

R^6 is in each case independently H or halogen, in particular F, and

m is an integer from 0 to 4,

or salts of said compounds for preparing an agent for inhibition of the urokinase plasminogen activator.

The compounds may be present as salts, preferably as physiologically tolerated acid salts, for example as salts of mineral acids, particularly preferably as hydrochlorides or as salts of suitable organic acids. The guanidinium group may carry, where appropriate, protective functions which are removable by cleavage, preferably under physiological conditions. The compounds may be present as optically pure compounds or as mixtures of enantiomers or/and diastereoisomers.

In the compounds of the general formula (I), Ar is preferably an aromatic or heteroaromatic ring system having a single ring, in particular a benzene ring. In this ring system the substituents CHX^1R^1 and $NHC(NH)NH_2$ are preferably arranged in meta or para position and particularly preferably in para position. In addition, Ar may further contain other, non-hydrogen substituents R^2. The number of substituents R^2 is preferably 0, 1, 2 or 3, particularly preferably 0 or 1 and most preferably 0. Preferred examples of R^2 are halogen atoms (F, Cl, Br or I), CH_3, CF_3, OH, OCH_3 or OCF_3.

The substituent $-CHX^1R^1$ is critical for inhibitor activity. R^1 may be H or an unsubstituted or substituted alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl or/and heteroaryl radical. The alkyl radical may be a straight-chain or branched C_1-C_{10}-alkyl group, in particular a C_1-C_4-alkyl group or a C_3-C_8-cycloalkyl group which may be substituted with, for example, C_1-C_3-alkoxy, hydroxyl, carboxyl, amino, sulfonyl, nitro, cyano, oxo or/and halogen or else with aryl or heteroaryl radicals. Alkenyl and alkynyl radicals are preferably C_2-C_{10} groups, in particular C_2-C_4 groups which may be unsubstituted or substituted as described above. Aryl and heteroaryl radicals may be substituted, for example, with C_1-C_6-alkyl, C_1-C_3-alkoxy, hydroxyl, carboxyl, sulfonyl, nitro, cyano or/and oxo. Furthermore, R^1 may have the meanings $COOR^3$, $CONR^3R^4$ or COR^5.

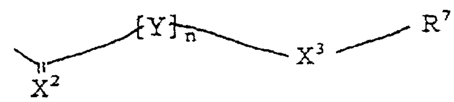
The X^1 group is a radical having electron donor or/and electron acceptor properties, preferably NR^3R^4, OR^3, SR^3, $COOR^3$, $CONR^3R^4$ or COR^5. X^1 is particularly preferably NR^3R^4. R^3 may be any organic radical or hydrogen. R^4 may be hydrogen or an unsubstituted or substituted alkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl radical, as described above.

R^5 may be hydrogen or an alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, carboxyalkyl, carboxyalkenyl, carboxyalkynyl, carboxyaryl or carboxyheteroaryl radical. R^5 is preferably a space-filling radical and contains at least one aryl, heteroaryl, cycloalkyl or/and tert-alkyl group. Particular preference is given to phenyl radicals, substituted phenyl radicals, tert-alkyl radicals and cycloalkyl radicals, which may contain, where appropriate, substituents as defined above.

If X^1 has the meaning NR^3R^4 and R^3 and R^4 are in each case independently hydrogen or unsubstituted or

substituted alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl or heteroaryl radicals (see definition of R^1), R^1 has preferably a meaning different from hydrogen, particularly preferably $COOR^3$, $CONR^3R^4$ or COR^5, in particular $COOR^3$, $CONH_2$, CO-$COOR^5$ or CHO so that the compounds I are derivatives of guanidinophenylglycine.

R^3 is particularly preferably a group of the general formula (II):



(II)

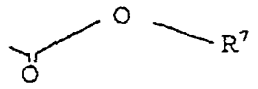
in which

- X^2 is NH, NR^4, O or S,
- X^3 is NH, NR^4, O, S, CO, COO, CONH or $CONR^4$,
- Y is $C(R^8)_2$,
- R^4 is defined as in formula (I),
- R^7 is H or an unsubstituted or substituted alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl or/and heteroaryl radical or $-SO_2-R^9$,
- R^8 is in each case independently H, halogen or an unsubstituted or substituted alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl or aryl or/and heteroaryl radical,
- R^9 is H or an unsubstituted or substituted alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl or/and heteroaryl radical and
- n is an integer from 0 to 2.

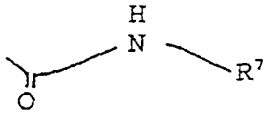
X^2 is preferably NH or O, particularly preferably O. X^3 is preferably NH or -O-. Y is preferably CH_2 or CHR^8, R^8 being preferably defined as R^4 in formula (I).

R^7 and R^9 are preferably defined as R^5 in formula (I).

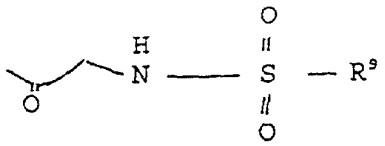
R^3 is most preferably a group of the formula IIIa, IIIb or IIIc:



IIIa



IIIb

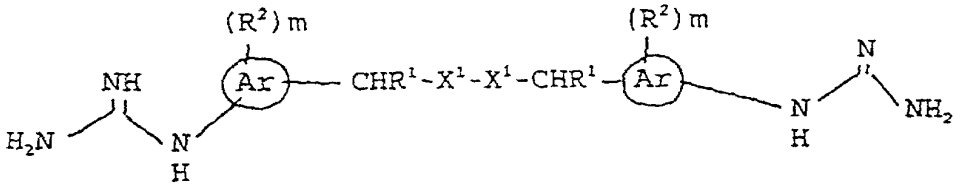


IIIc

in which R^7 and R^9 are as defined in formula (II).

The substituents R^7 and R^9 contain, like R^5, preferably space-filling groups which may be selected from the group comprising unsubstituted or substituted aryl radicals, in particular phenyl and substituted phenyl radicals and unsubstituted or substituted branched alkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl radicals, in particular with tertiary carbon atoms such as tert-butyl or neopentyl, or unsubstituted or substituted cycloalkyl radicals, in particular bi- or tricycloalkyl radicals such as adamantyl.

Particularly high affinity and selectivity for uPA are also exhibited by compounds of the general formula (IV):



in which Ar, X^1, R^2 and m, on each occurrence, independently may be identical or different and

have a meaning as defined in the formulae (I), (II) and (IIIa-c).

The compounds of the formula (IV) contain two arylguanidino groups and are linked to one another via their substituents CHR^1X^1- which may be in each case identical or different.

The compounds of the general formula (I) may be prepared, for example, starting from p-aminobenzylamine according to the reaction schemes shown in figures 1 and 2. For example, 4-aminobenzylamine may be reacted with a protective reagent for amino groups, for example di-tert-butyl pyrocarbonate, to give a protected intermediate, 4-(N-Boc-aminomethyl)aniline (1), Boc meaning tert-butyloxycarbonyl. The aromatic amino function of this compound can be reacted with a guanidinylation reagent, for example N,N'-di-Z-N"-triflylguanidine, resulting in 1-[4-(N-Boc-amino-methyl)phenyl-2,3-di-Z-guanidine (2), Z being benzyloxycarbonyl. This compound can be converted to 1-[4-(aminomethyl)phenyl]-2,3-di-Z-guanidinium hydrochloride (4) by removing the Boc protective group by cleavage. The compound (4) may in turn be reacted with reactive compounds such as, for example, chloroformic esters, isocyanates or N-hydroxysuccinimide esters to give the desired final products.

The preparation of hydrogenation-labile compounds is described in figure 2. 4-Aminobenzylamine can be reacted with a protective reagent for amino groups, for example benzyloxycarbonyloxysuccinimide to give a protected intermediate (6) and then with a further guanidinylation reagent, for example N,N'-di-Boc-1-guanylpyrazole, to give (7). This compound can be hydrogenated to give (8) and then be reacted with reactive compounds to give the desired final products.

Correspondingly, it is also possible to synthesize compounds in which X^1 has the meaning OR^3, SR^3, $COOR^3$, $CONR^3R^4$ or COR^5.

The urokinase inhibitors of the invention may be used, where appropriate, together with suitable pharmaceutical auxiliary agents or carriers for producing medicaments or in diagnostics. In this connection, administration in combination with other active substances, for example other urokinase inhibitors such as, for example, antibodies or/and peptides, is possible.

The medicaments may be administered in humans and animals topically, orally, rectally or parenterally, for example subcutaneously or intravenously, for example in the form of tablets, coated tablets, capsules, pellets, suppositories, solutions or transdermal systems such as plasters.

The compounds of the invention are suitable for controlling disorders which are associated with pathological overexpression of uPA or/and uPAR. They are, for example, capable of very effectively inhibiting the growth or/and spreading of malignant tumors and also metastasizing of tumors. It is possible to use the uPA inhibitors, where appropriate, together with other tumor agents or with other types of treatment, for example radiation or surgery. Furthermore, the inhibitors of the invention are also effective in other uPA-associated disorders.

uPA inhibitors of the invention are preferably characterized in that they have a K_i which is at least two times, preferably at least five times and particularly preferably at least ten times and up to 1 000 times lower for uPA than for tPA. It is furthermore remarkable that the compounds of the invention only marginally affect blood clotting, since

their K_i values are too high for effective inhibition of thrombin, plasmin and factor Xa.

The inventive substances of the formula (I) may be used in the form of conjugates with physiologically effective substances, for example radiolabels or cytotoxic agents, e.g. chemotherapeutics such as cisplatin or 5-fluorouracil, or with peptides. Furthermore, it is also possible to incorporate the substances into the membrane of carrier vesicles, for example liposomes, and thus to make possible targeting of active substances enclosed in said carrier vesicles, for example cytotoxic agents such as doxorubicin.

The present invention provides a method for inhibiting urokinase in living creatures, in particular in humans, by administering an effective quantity of at least one compound of the formula (I). The dosage of the compound is commonly in the range from 0.01 to 100 mg/kg of body weight per day. The length of treatment depends on the seriousness of the disorder and may range from a single dose up to a treatment lasting several weeks or even several months, which may be repeated at intervals, where appropriate.

Finally, the present invention relates to novel arylguanidine derivatives of the general formula (I).

The invention is intended to be illustrated in more detail by the following examples and figures in which:

Figure 1 shows a general reaction scheme for preparing hydrogenation-stable substances of the invention, and

Figure 2 shows a general reaction scheme for preparing hydrogenation-labile substances of the invention.

Examples

Materials and methods

All solvents and reagents used for the synthesis of uPA inhibitors were of the highest commercially available quality and were, if necessary, further purified and dried by standard methods. Analytical HPLC was carried out on Nucleosil 100/C18 columns (Macherey-Nagel, Düren, Germany) using a linear acetonitrile/2% H_3PO_4 gradient (from 5:95 to 90:10 in 13 min). ESI-MS spectra were measured in a Perkin Elmer API 165 mass spectrometer.

Example 1 Synthesis of acid-labile urethanes, for example 4-(N-Boc-aminomethyl)phenylguanidine (3)

4-(N-Boc-Aminomethyl)aniline (1)

4-Aminobenzylamine (2 ml; 17.6 mmol) was dissolved in 1,4-dioxane (10 ml). An aqueous 2 N NaOH solution (17.6 ml; 35.2 mmol) was added with stirring. A solution of di-tert-butyl pyrocarbonate (3.08 g; 14.1 mmol) in 1,4-dioxane (30 ml) was added dropwise over 30 min and the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature overnight. The solution was concentrated under reduced pressure to approximately 10 ml and extracted twice with ethyl acetate (30 ml). The combined organic phases were washed with aqueous 5% $KHSO_4$ (10 ml), aqueous 5% $NaHCO_3$, water and salt solution, dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and evaporated under reduced pressure, the resulting product being a light yellow solid substance.

Yield: 2.38 g (76%); HPLC: t_R 5.6 min; MS 223 $(M+H)^+$, calculated 222 (M).

1-[4-(N-Boc-Aminomethyl)phenyl]-2,3-di-Z-guanidine (2)

A solution of the compound (1) (500 mg; 2.24 mmol) and N,N'-di-Z-N"-triflylguanidine (1.04 g; 2.24 mmol) (Feichtinger et al., J. Org. Chem. 63 (1998), 3804-3805) in 5 ml of acetone was stirred vigorously at room temperature. After 10 min the product started to precipitate. After 2 h the product was filtered off, dried under reduced pressure and recrystallized from methanol, resulting in white crystals.

Yield: 1.065 g (89%); HPLC: t_R 13.4 min; MS 533 $(M+H)^+$, calculated 532 (M).

4-(Boc-Aminomethyl)phenylguanidinium hydrochloride (3)

50 mg (0.107 mmol) of the compound (2) were dissolved in 5 ml of methanol, stirred and hydrogenated over a 10% palladium/activated carbon catalyst for 3 h. After removing the catalyst by filtration, the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was recrystallized from methanol/diisopropyl ether after adding one equivalent of HCl in 1,4-dioxane.

Yield: 28 mg (87%); HPLC: t_R 7.1 min; MS 265 $(M+H)^+$, calculated 264 (M).

Example 2: Synthesis of disubstituted ureas using 1-[4-(aminomethyl)phenyl]-2,3-di-Z-guanidinium hydrochloride (4) as component, for example 4-[3-(1-adamantyl)ureido]-phenylguanidinium hydrochloride (5)

1-[4-(Aminomethyl)phenyl]-2,3-di-Z-guanidinium hydrochloride (4)

1 g (1.878 mmol) of the compound (2) was dissolved at 0°C in 20 ml of 3 N HCl (gas) in 1,4-dioxane and stirred at room temperature for 2 h. After evaporating

the solvent, the crystalline product was obtained in virtually quantitative yield.

Yield: 872 mg (99%); HPLC: t_R 10.2 min; MS 433 $(M+H)^+$, calculated 432 (M).

4-[3-(1-adamantyl)ureido]phenylguanidinium hydrochloride (5)

50 mg (0.107 mmol) of the compound (4), 17 mg (0.107 mmol) of adamantyl isocyanate and 45 µl (0.32 mmol) of triethylamine were dissolved in 1 ml of ethylene chloride. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 3 h. After evaporating the solvent under reduced pressure, the residue was dissolved in ethyl acetate (10 ml) and extracted three times with 0.1 N aqueous HCl. The organic phase was concentrated to dryness. The protective groups Z were removed as described for compound (3).

Yield: 15 mg (37%); HPLC: t_R 8.6 min; MS 342 $(M+H)^+$, calculated 341 (M).

Example 3: Synthesis of hydrogenation-labile compounds, for example 4-[N-(4-nitrobenzyloxycarbonyl)aminomethyl]phenylguanidine (9)

4-(N-Z-Aminomethyl)aniline (6)

4-Aminobenzylamine (1 ml; 8.82 mmol) was dissolved in 10 ml of 1,4-dioxane. An aqueous 2 N solution of NaOH (8.8 ml; 17.64 mmol) was added with stirring. Then a solution of benzyloxycarbonyloxysuccinimide (1.978 g; 7.938 mmol) in 10 ml of 1,4-dioxane was added dropwise over 15 min, and the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 5 h. The solution was concentrated under reduced pressure to approximately 10 ml and extracted twice with 30 ml of ethyl acetate. The combined organic phases were washed with aqueous 5%

strength $NaHCO_3$ solution, water and salt solution, dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4, concentrated and dried under reduced pressure, the resulting product being a light yellow solid substance.

Yield: 1.8 g (88%); HPLC: t_R 6.8 min; MS 257 $(M+H)^+$, calculated 256 (M).

1-[4-(N-Z-Aminomethyl)phenyl]-2,3-di-Boc-guanidine (7)

A solution of 495 mg (1.93 mmol) of the compound (6) and 599 mg (1.93 mmol) of N,N'-di-Boc-1-guanylpyrazole (Bernatowicz et al., Tetrahedron Lett. 34 (1993), 3389-3392) in 5 ml of acetone was stirred at room temperature for 3 days. After evaporating the solvent, the residue was dissolved in 50 ml of diethyl ether, washed with aqueous 5% $KHSO_4$ solution, water and salt solution and dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4. Evaporating the diethyl ether under reduced pressure resulted in a light yellow foam.

Yield: 670 mg (70%); HPLC: t_R 12.1 min; MS 499 $(M+H)^+$, calculated 498 (M).

1-(4-Aminomethyl)phenyl-2,3-di-Boc-guanidine hydrochloride (8)

The compound (8) was obtained by catalytic hydrogenation of 600 mg (1.2 mmol) of the compound (7) in ethanol over a 10% palladium/activated carbon catalyst for 1 h. After filtration of the catalyst, the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure, resulting in an oil which was recrystallized from isopropanol/diisopropyl ether after adding 1 equivalent of HCl in 1,4-dioxane.

Yield: 450 mg (91%); HPLC: t_R 8.1 min; MS 365 $(M+H)^+$, calculated 364 (M).

4-[N-(4-Nitrobenzyloxycarbonyl)aminomethyl]phenyl-guanidine hydrochloride (9)

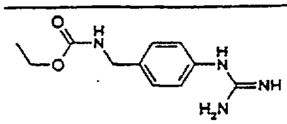
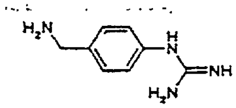
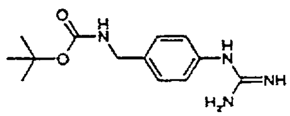
A solution of 50 mg (0.125 mmol) of the compound (8), 27 mg (0.125 mmol) of 4-nitrobenzyl chloroformate and 52 µl (0.375 mmol) of triethylamine in 1 ml of methylene chloride was stirred at room temperature for 3 h. After evaporating the solvent, the residue was dissolved in 30 ml of ethyl acetate and washed three times with 0.5 N aqueous HCl. After evaporating the ethyl acetate, the residue was dissolved in 95% trifluoroacetic acid and stirred for 1 h. After evaporating the solvent, the product was recrystallized from ethanol/diisopropyl ether.

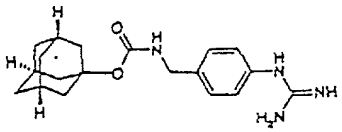
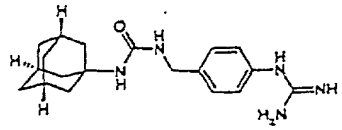
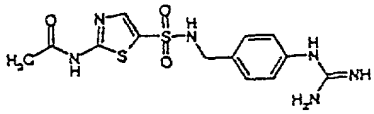
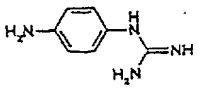
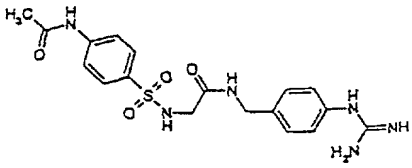
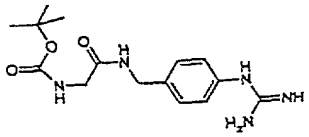
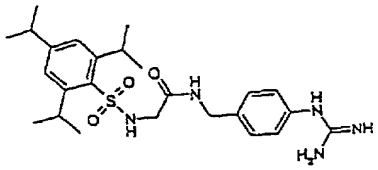
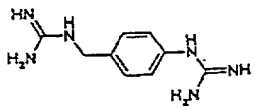
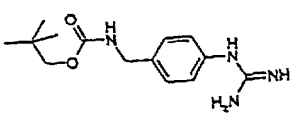
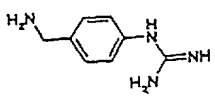
Yield: 35 mg (60%); HPLC: t_R 8.1 min; MS 344 $(M+H)^+$, calculated 343 (M).

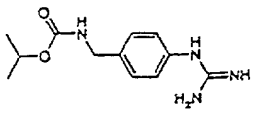
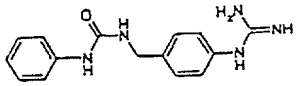
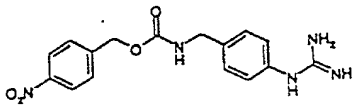
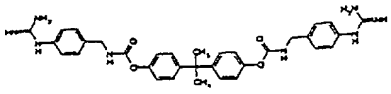
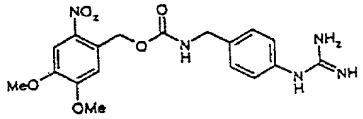
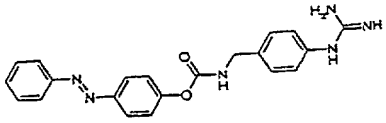
Example 4: In-vitro inhibition of urokinase by selected compounds of the formula I

The uPA inhibitor activity was determined by incubating 200 µl of Tris buffer (0.05 mol/l, containing the inhibitor, 0.154 mol/l NaCl, 5% ethanol, pH 8.0), 25 µl of substrate (Pefachrome UK or BZ-β-Ala-Gly-Arg-pNA in H_2O; Pentapharm Ltd, Basle, Switzerland) and 50 µl of sc-urokinase (Ribosepharm GmbH, Haan, Germany) or another corresponding protease at 25°C. After 3 min, the reaction was interrupted by adding 25 µl of acetic acid (50%) and absorbance at 405 nm was determined by means of a microplate reader (MR 5000, Dynatech, Denkendorf, Germany). The K_i values were determined by linear regression according to Dixon by means of a computer program. The K_i values are the average of at least three determinations, and the standard deviation was below 25%. The inhibitors assayed and their inhibition constants for various proteases are listed in table 1 below:

Table 1

Inhibitor	Name	Ki [µM] uPA	Plasmin	Thrombin	Trypsin	F Xa
	ST 269	27	>1000	>1000	>1000	>1000
	ST 270	46	>1000	>1000	>1000	>1000
	ST 242	36	>1000	>1000	>1000	>1000

Inhibitor	Name	Ki [µM] uPA	Plasmin	Thrombin	Trypsin	F Xa
	ST 274	13	>1000	>1000	>1000	>1000
	ST 293	2,4	>1000	600	46	>1000
	ST 282	240	>1000	>1000	>1000	>1000
	ST 267	>1000	>1000	>1000	>1000	>1000
	ST 296	22	>1000	>1000	42	>1000
	ST 294	37	>1000	>1000	>1000	>1000
	ST 298	42	>1000	>1000	37	>1000
	ST 270	46	>1000	>1000	>1000	>1000
	ST 271	51	>1000	>1000	>1000	>1000
	ST 275	>1000	>1000	>1000	>1000	>1000

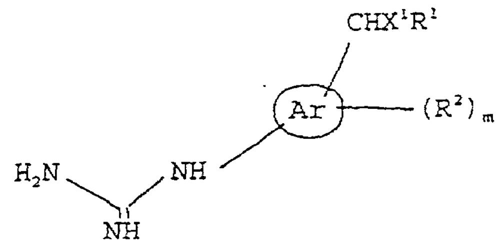
Inhibitor	Name	Ki [μM] uPA	Plasmin	Thrombin	Trypsin	F Xa
	ST 273	52	130	>1000	>1000	>1000
	ST 301	29	170	>1000	>1000	330
	ST 311	12	???	>1000	200	>1000
	ST 312	2,8	???	>1000	100	>1000
	ST 313	35	???	>1000	???	>1000
	ST 315	11	???	>1000	200	>1000

The compounds ST293, 312 and 315 have a K_i value for uPA of > 1 000 μm.

The compounds denoted as ST293 and ST312 proved to be particularly effective and selective inhibitors.

Claims

1. The use of compounds of the formula I



in which

Ar is an aromatic or heteroaromatic ring system,

X^1 is NR^3R^4, OR^3, SR^3, $COOR^3$, $CONR^3R^4$ or COR^5,

R^1 is H, an unsubstituted or substituted alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl or/and heteroaryl radical, or $COOR^3$, $CONR^3NR^4$ or COR^5,

R^2 is halogen, $C(R^6)_3)$, $C_2(R^6)_5$, $OC(R^6)_3$ or $OC_2(R^6)_5$,

R^3 is H or any organic radical,

R^4 is H or an unsubstituted or substituted alkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl radical,

R^5 is H, an alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, carboxyalkyl, carboxyalkenyl, carboxyalkynyl, carboxyaryl or carboxyheteroaryl radical, where the alkyl, aryl and heteroaryl radicals may be unsubstituted or substituted,

R^6 is in each case independently H or halogen, in particular F, and

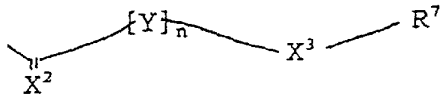
m is an integer from 0 to 4,

or salts of said compounds for preparing an agent for inhibition of the urokinase plasminogen activator.

2. The use of compounds as claimed in claim 1, in which Ar is a benzene ring.

3. The use of compounds as claimed in claim 2, in which the substituents $-CHX^1R^1$ and $-NHC(NH)NH_2$ are arranged in para position.

4. The use of compounds as claimed in any of claims 1 to 3, in which R^3 is a group of the general formula II:



(II)

in which

X^2 is NH, NR^4, O or S,

X^3 is NH, NR^4, O, S, CO, COO, CONH or $CONR^4$,

Y is $C(R^8)_2$,

R^4 is defined as in claim 1,

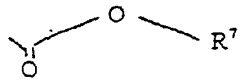
R^7 is H or an unsubstituted or substituted alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl or/and heteroaryl radical or $-SO_2-R^9$,

R^8 is in each case independently H, halogen or an unsubstituted or substituted alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl or/and heteroaryl radical,

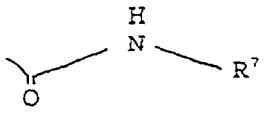
R^9 is H or an unsubstituted or substituted alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl or/and heteroaryl radical and

n is an integer from 0 to 2.

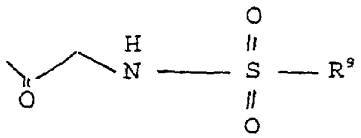
5. The use of compounds as claimed in any of claims 1 to 4, in which R^3 is a group of the formula IIIa, IIIb or IIIc:



IIIa



IIIb

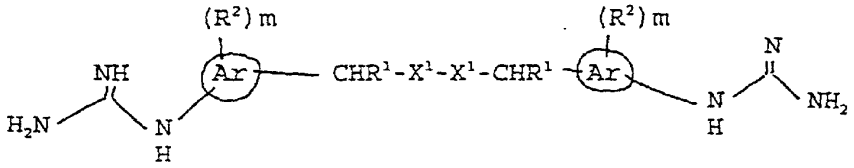


IIIc

in which R^7 and R^9 are as defined in claim 4.

6. The use of compounds as claimed in either of claims 4 and 5, in which R^7 and R^9 are selected from the group comprising unsubstituted or substituted aryl, in particular phenyl and substituted phenyl, radicals and unsubstituted or substituted tertiary alkyl radicals or cycloalkyl radicals, in particular bicycloalkyl radicals such as adamantyl.

7. The use as claimed in any of claims 1 to 6,: **characterized in that** the compounds have the formula IV:



in which

Ar, X^1, R^2 and m, on each occurrence, independently may be identical or different and have a meaning as defined in claim 1.

8. The use as claimed in any of claims 1 to 7 for controlling disorders which are associated with a pathological overexpression of urokinase or/and urokinase receptor.

9. The use as claimed in claim 8 for controlling tumors.

10. The use as claimed in claim 8 or 9 for controlling the formation of metastases.

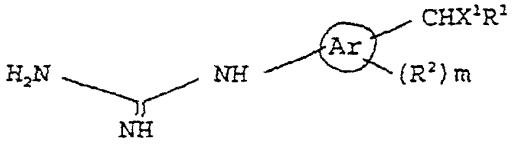
11. The use as claimed in any of the preceding claims for preparing orally, topically, rectally or parenterally administrable medicaments.

12. The use as claimed in any of the preceding claims in the form of tablets, coated tablets, capsules,

pellets, suppositories, solutions or transdermal systems such as plasters.

13. A method for inhibiting urokinase in living creatures, in particular in humans, by administering an effective quantity of at least one compound as claimed in any of claims 1 to 7.

14. A compound of the formula (I)



(I)

in which Ar, X^1, R^1, R^2 and m are as defined in any of claims 1 to 7.

Synthesis of the hydrogenation-stable compounds:

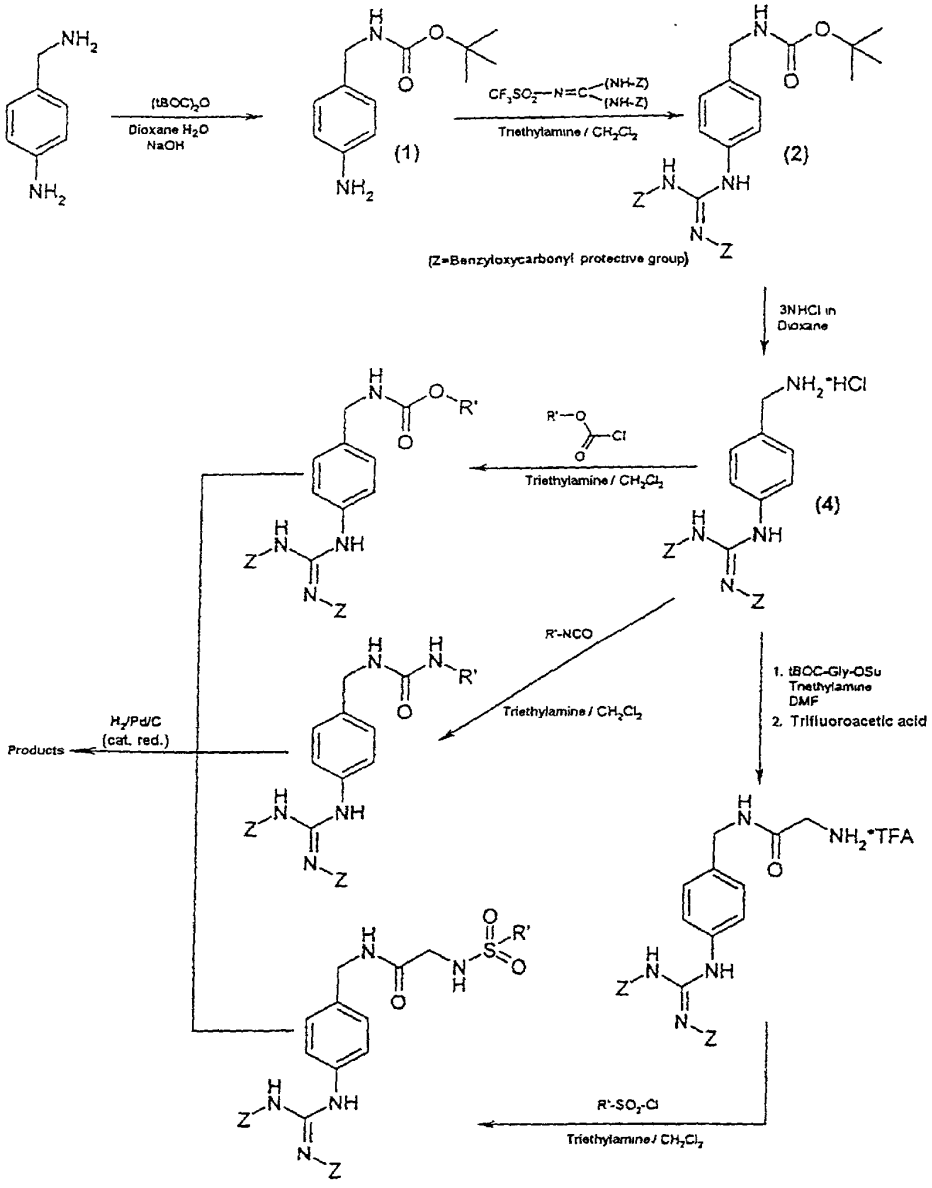


Figure 1

Synthesis of the hydrogenation-labile compounds:

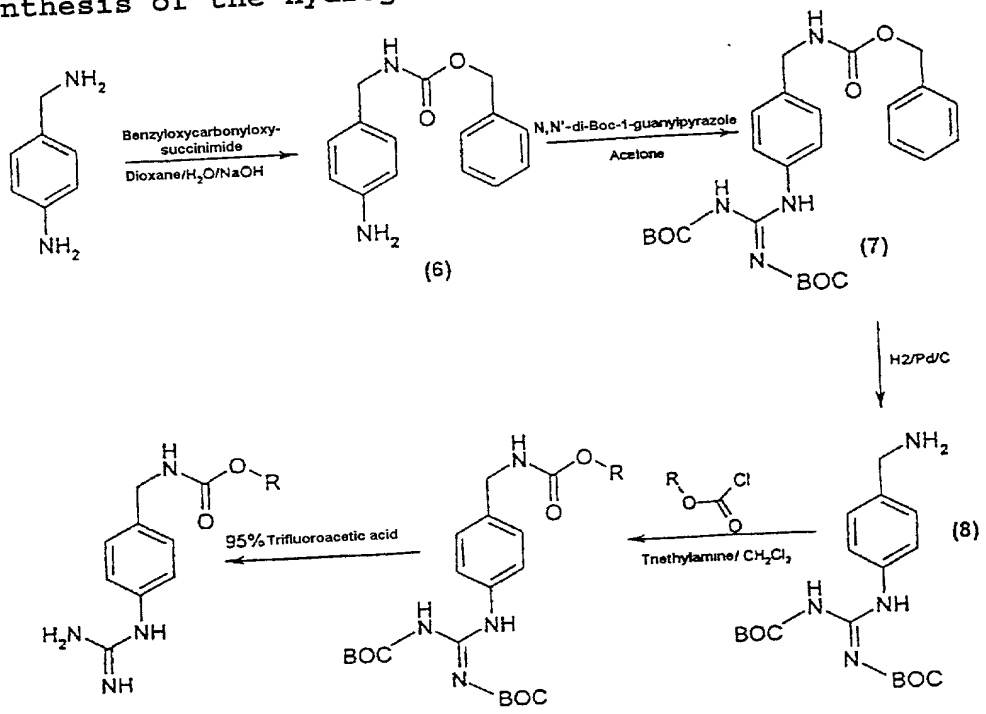


Figure 2

JC13 Rec'd PCT/PTO 25 FEB 2002

U.S. APPLN. NO. (IF KNOWN SEE 37 C.F.R. 1.50) NEW 10/049634	INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/EP00/08234	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 100564-00104
		DATE: February 25, 2002

17. ☒ The following fees are submitted:	CALCULATIONS	PTO USE ONLY
Basic National Fee [37 C.F.R. 1.492(a)(1)-(5)]:		
Search Report has been prepared by the EPO or JPO.....$890.00		
International preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 C.F.R. 1.482).....$710.00		
No international preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 C.F.R. 1.482) but international search fee paid to USPTO [37 C.F.R. 1.445(a)(2)].....$740.00		
Neither international preliminary examination fee (37 C.F.R. 1.482) or international search fee [37 C.F.R. 1.445(a)(2)] paid to USPTO.....$1,040.00		
International preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 C.F.R. 1.482) and all claims satisfied provisions of PCT Article 33(2)-(4).....$ 100.00		

ENTER APPROPRIATE BASIC FEE AMOUNT =				$ 890.00	
Surcharge of $130.00 for furnishing the oath or declaration later than ☐ 20 ☐ 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date [37 C.F.R. 1.492(e)].				$	
Claims	Number Filed	Number Extra	Rate		
Total Claims	12 - 20 =	0	X $ 18.00	$	
Independent Claims	2 - 3 =	0	X $ 84.00	$	
Multiple dependent claim(s) (if applicable)			+ $280.00	$	
TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =				$ 890.00	
Reduction by one-half for filing by small entity, if applicable. Verified Small Entity statement must also be filed. (Note 37 C.F.R. 1.9, 1.27, 1.28).				$ 445.00	
SUBTOTAL =				$ 445.00	
Processing fee of $130.00 for furnishing the English translation later the ☐ 20 ☐ 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date [37 C.F.R. 1.492(f)]. +				$	
TOTAL NATIONAL FEE =				$ 445.00	
Fee for recording the enclosed assignment [37 C.F.R. 1.21(h)]. The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 C.F.R. 3.28, 3.31). $40.00 per property +				$ 40.00	
TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED =				$ 485.00	
				Amount to be refunded	$
				Charged	$

a. ☒ A check in the amount of $485.00 to cover the above fees is enclosed.
b. ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 01-2300.

NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 C.F.R. 1.494 or 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive [37 C.F.R. 1.137(a) or (b)] must be filed and granted to restore the application to pending status.

SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:
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RBM/epb

Robert B. Murray
Reg. No. 22,980

The PTO ~~did not~~ receive the following listed item(s) Check Amt $445-

Docket No. _____

ARENT FOX KINTNER PLOTKIN & KAHN, PLLC
Nikaido, Marmelstein, Murray & Oram Intellectual Property Group

Declaration For U.S. Patent Application

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:
My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below my name.
I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled
(Insert Title) Selective inhibitors of the urokinase plasminogen activator
the specification of which is attached hereto unless the following box is checked:

XX was filed on 23 August 2000 as PCT International Application
Number PCT/EP 00/08234 and was amended on _____
and/or was filed on _____ as United States Application
Number _____ and was amended on _____.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claim(s), as amended by any amendment referred to above.
I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56.
I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. §119(a)-(d) or §365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or §365(a) of any PCT International application which designated at least one country other than the United States, listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate or PCT International Application having a filing date before that of the application(s) for which priority is claimed:

(List prior foreign applications. See note A on back of this page)	(Number)	(Country)	(Day/Month/Year Filed)	Priority Claimed
	199 40 389.9	Germany	25. Aug 1999	☒ Yes ☐ No
				☐ Yes ☐ No
				☐ Yes ☐ No

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. §119(c) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

(Application Number) (Filing Date)

(Application Number) (Filing Date)

(See Note B on back of this page) ☐ See attached list for additional prior foreign or provisional applications.

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. §120 of any United States application(s) or §365(c) of any PCT International application(s) designating the United States of America listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior application(s) (U.S. or PCT) in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35, U.S.C. §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT International filing date of this application.

(List prior U.S. Applications or PCT International applications designating the U.S.)	(Application Serial No.)	(Filing Date)	(Status) (patented, pending, abandoned)
	(Application Serial No.)	(Filing Date)	(Status) (patented, pending, abandoned)

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I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further, that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

(See Note C on back of this page)

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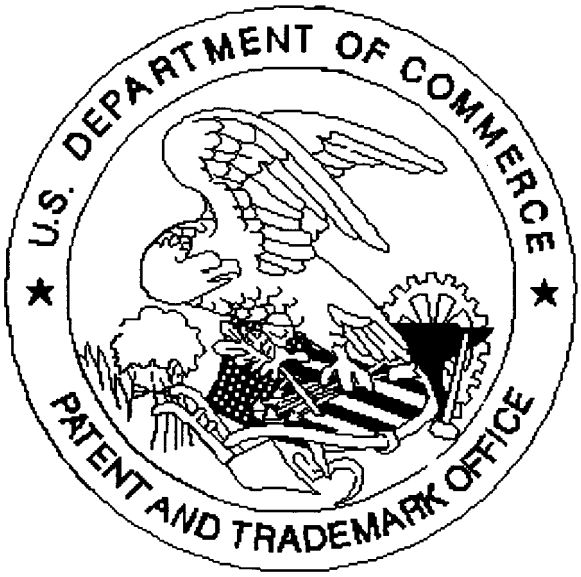

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